

De Clerique Farm Group
Piermont Road
Closter, Bergen County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-364

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

De Clerique Farm Group
Piermont Road
Closter, Bergen County, New Jersey

Owner: Mrs. Marie A. Breisacher

Date of Erection: About 1810

Architect:

Builder: William de Clark (de Clerque)

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two and one-half

Materials of Construction: Foundation - sandstone and
fieldstone

Exterior walls - south elevation (front) dressed sandstone, other walls undressed stone

Interior walls - plaster of clay mud

Roof - gambrel with dormers recently added

Historical Date:

The earliest member of the De Clerique family was Daniel de Clerque who came to America from Holland in 1676. He became one of the Tappan patentees in 1686.

In a Bergen County book on deeds (L 2) we read of an indenture that was made on May 25, 1815 between Daniel de Clerque, a later descendant of the original Daniel, and William de Clerque in which the tract of land upon which this house was built which was conveyed from father to son.

According to an article in the Bergen Evening Record in 1935 the house was one hundred and twenty-five years old making the date of construction about 1810. The house remained in the De Clerque family until 1855 when Jacob Outwater sold it to Elisha Ruckman. Since then the house has changed hands many times. The present owners have had possession for thirty-two years.

Bibliography:

Harvey, C. B. Geneological History of Hudson and Bergen Counties, New Jersey
New York, Geneological Publishing Company,
1900

Material collected by Wallace Dunlop,
Survey Historian of Bergen County

Walter J. Ruck
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams
SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, A.I.A.
District Officer

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7/28/37

A D D E N D U M

Miss Bailey calls this particular house the William De Clark House. She says it was built about 1800-1805 by William De Clark. According to the same source of information, the house stands on the north part of a 1,030 acre purchase made on April 25, 1710 by Barent and Resolvort Hagel from the patentee Symes. A descendant of the original owners Sarah⁵ Naugle, born in the house originally built by Barent still standing on Harvard Street in Closter, married on September 26, 1766 Daniel De Clark or De Klerck, who was born in 1748 and died in 1834. The De Clarks were from Tappan and the house of the originator of the family Daniel De Clark still stands in Tappan, Rockland County, New York. It was a son of theirs, William, born in 1781, who returned to Closter and built the house of the survey. The property passed to a daughter of his who married Jacob Outwater about 1820. The kitchen wing of the house was built about 1820 at the time the Outwaters were living with the De Clarks.

Bibliography:

Bailey, Rosalie F. Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York New York, William Morrow and Company, 1936

Walter E. Rutt
Supervising Historian

reviewed July 1938-JPR